IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Sakae NISHIJIMA

Serial No. (unknown)

Filed herewith

METHOD AND APPARATUS
FOR MEASURING MATERIAL

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fee, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend claim 4 as follows:

--4. A feeding amount controlling apparatus as defined in claim 2, wherein the feeding rate shifting mechanism comprises larger diameter valve and smaller diameter valve which are respectively installed in main feeding line and by-pass feeding line thereof and can shift the feeding rate from high rate to low one by closing the large diameter valve.

Amend claim 10 as follows:

--10. Method as defined in claims 8, wherein the step of determining timing is made by calculating t according to the following equation: $t = (A-PV-Vpr)/Vr$, wherein A is the intended amount, PV is the total fed amount, Vpr is the preset amount and Vr is the predicted feeding amount.

Amend claim 11 as follows:

--11. Method as defined in claim 10, wherein the steps until the step of determining whether the intended amount is larger than a summation of calculated total fed amount, the preset amount and the predicted amount are performed at slow scanning rate and the rest of the steps are performed at fast scanning rate.--

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R E M A R K S

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE".

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

The claims have been amended as follows:

4. A feeding amount controlling apparatus as defined in claim 2 or 3, wherein the feeding rate shifting mechanism comprises larger diameter valve and smaller diameter valve which are respectively installed in main feeding line and by-pass feeding line thereof and can shift the feeding rate from high rate to low one by closing the large diameter valve.

10. Method as defined in claims 8 or 9, wherein the step of determining timing is made by calculating t according to the following equation: $t = (A-PV-Vpr)/Vr$, wherein A is the intended amount, PV is the total fed amount, Vpr is the preset amount and Vr is the predicted feeding amount.

11. Method as defined in claims 10, wherein the steps until the step of determining whether the intended amount is larger than a summation of calculated total fed amount, the preset amount and the predicted amount are performed at slow scanning rate and the rest of the steps are performed at fast scanning rate.

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